

**EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**REGULAR MEETING
EAST LYME TOWN HALL
MARCH 9, 2010**

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present

Marvin Schutt, Acting Chairman
Ruth Reluga
Tom Kalal
Mark Christensen
Ron Nichols, Alternate, Seated

Members Absent

Art Carlson, Chairman

Also Present

Penny Howell Heller
Steve Harney

I. Call the meeting to order

Mr. Schutt called the March 9, 2010 Regular Meeting to order at 6:11 PM.

II. Additions to the Agenda.

MOTION (1)

Mr. Nichols moved to add the item of legislation regarding funds for open space as an Agenda item under New Business.
Seconded by Mr. Kalal.
Motion Carried 4-0-0.

III. Public Delegations

There were none.

IV. Approval of Minutes from February 9, 2010 Meeting

MOTION (2)

Mr. Kalal moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2010 Regular Meeting as amended.
Seconded by Mr. Christensen.

Mrs. Reluga wanted to make a correction to item 7. Footpaths, she asked to move the comment "Ruth Reluga stated she will be adding Tidal Marshes to her list of jobs." To be placed under Item 3. Surface Water Quality, She also wanted to add to Item 3. that she

had also said the date for the next bio-assessment of wade-able waters would be September 18, 2010.

Motion carried 4-0-0.

V. Old Business

A. Nature of East Lyme Program

1. East Lyme Forest Management

Mrs. Reluga attended an all day conference on this item. The conference was sponsored by the Connecticut Forest Round Table Supported by the USDA Forest Service Forest Legacy Program, CT DEP Forestry Division and CT Forest & Park Association. Literature is attached as Attachment 1.

2. Non-point Source Pollution (Nitrogen/Phosphorus) Reduction Program

Mr. Kalal handed out copies of a Nitrogen Reduction Program. Attached as Attachment 2.

Mr. Christensen commented that the simplest advice was to use less Nitrogen and also use grasses that require less Nitrogen. There are samples of these on display at the Hole-In the Wall.

3. Surface Water Quality

Mrs. Reluga is waiting on a final report from Mike Duchene, she will distribute to all once she receives it. The bio-assessment of wade-able waters will be on September 18, 2010.

She also has an article on the salt marsh sparrows which have become an endangered species, they are prevalent here in CT and she is gathering more information on their presence in Pattagansett Marsh.

4. Bird Census

Mr. Schutt said he still needs to speak with Mr. Dasinger.

5. Invasive Species

Ms. Heller said the one species she feels requires the most attention would be the "Mile a Minute Vine". She is gathering more educational information. There was discussion over the "Purple Blue Stripe Vine" and the problems it causes in the marshes as well as Fragmites.

6. Tree & Plant Identification

Mr. Kalal had nothing new to report.

7. Footpaths

Mr. Schutt took the Footpath plan and the list of 69 open spaces and has cross indexed the list to discover who the property owners are. He is intending to discuss this with Mr. Carlson.

B. Website

Mrs. Reluga presented an outline of four major items needed on the website.

1. Mission or overview statement – containing links to state statutes and other websites offering information regarding conservation.
2. List of Members and their terms.
3. Schedule of Meetings
4. Agendas & Minutes

Mr. Nichols asked to have the outline e-mailed to everyone.

C. Grants: Preparation and Procurement

There was no report.

D. Open Space Preservation

There was no report.

E. Agricultural Commission Ordinance

There was no report.

VI. New Business

There was discussion regarding the grant money that is available for open space funding that may be eliminated. Discussion continued regarding writing a letter.

MOTION (3)

Mrs. Reluga moved to have the Secretary write a letter to register the Commissions objection to the current legislation of eliminating funds for open space.

Seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Motion carried 3-0-0.

VII. Chairman's Report

There was no report.

VIII. Adjournment**MOTION (4)**

Mrs. Reluga moved to Adjourn the March 9, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources at 8:07 PM.

Seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Motion Carried 3-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zoe Zrakas, Recording Secretary